

CUSTOMER NO.: 24498

Serial No. 09/610,719

Reply to Office Action dated: 06/22/05

Response dated: 09/13/05

**PATENT
BTSPH099090**

Amendments to the Claims

Please amend claims 5 and 10 as follows:

1. (Previously presented) A modular control unit (3) for a control panel (2) for video apparatus, the control unit (3) including at least an operating module (31) and a control module (32), the control module (32) having a first interface (37) for connection to the control panel (2) and at least a second interface (35) for connection of the operating module (31), and the operating module (31) having at least an interface (34) for connection to the control module (32), the operating module (31) further including a parallel-in-serial-out shift register (SR) for receiving parallel data representing a status of the operating module (31) and serially outputting the data, the shift register being clocked by the control module (32) via the interface (34, 35).
2. (Previously presented) The modular control unit (3) as claimed in claim 1, wherein the operating module (31) and control module (32) are arranged so that their respective interfaces (34, 35) can be directly connected.
3. (Previously presented) The modular control unit (3) as claimed in claim 1, wherein the operating module (31) includes a demultiplexer (DEMUX) for driving display means associated with respective control components.
4. (Previously presented) The modular control unit as claimed in claim 3, wherein an identification (ID) of the operating module (31) is applied in parallel form to the inputs of the shift register (SR) and serially output via the interface (34).
5. (Currently amended) The modular control panel unit (3) as claimed in claim 1, wherein the control module (32) further comprises an interface (37) for driving a video apparatus (1), a processor (μ P) and a memory (RAM, ROM) for generating control data, and a demultiplexer (DEMUX) for converting control component states which are present in serial form, as well as means for combining control data for display elements to a serial data stream.

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6. (Previously presented) A modular control unit (3) for a video apparatus comprising:

an operating module (31) having at least one interface (34) and an identification code; and

a control module (32) having a first interface (37) for connection to a control panel and at least a second interface (35) for connection to the at least one operating module interface (34), wherein said control module (32) identifies the type and structure of the operating module (31) using the identification code,

wherein the operating module (31) further comprises:

a parallel-in-serial-out shift register (SR) for serially outputting a status of the operating module (31) and the identification code, which shift register is clocked by the control module via the interface (34, 35).

7. (Previously presented) The modular control unit (3) as claimed in claim 6, wherein the operating module (31) and control module (32) are arranged so that their interfaces (34, 35) can be directly connected.

8. (Previously presented) The modular control unit (3) as claimed in claim 6, wherein the operating module (31) further comprises:

a demultiplexer (DEMUX) for driving display means associated with the respective control components.

9. (Previously presented) The modular control unit (3) as claimed in claim 6, wherein the control module (32) further comprises:

an interface (37) for driving the video apparatus;

a processor (μ P);

a memory (RAM, ROM) for generating control data;

a demultiplexer (DEMUX) for converting control component states which are present in serial form; and

a means for combining control data for display elements to a serial data stream.

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10. (Currently amended) A modular control unit (3) for a control panel (2) for video apparatus, the control unit (3) comprising at least an operating module (31) and a control module (32), the control module (32) comprising a first interface (37) for connection to the control panel (2) and at least a second interface (35) for connection of the operating module (31), and the operating module (31) comprising at least an interface (34) for connection to the control module (32), the operating module (31) further comprising a plurality of mechanical keys, each of said plurality of mechanical keys (33) having a corresponding liquid crystal display integrated with each key such that a function of each key can be juxtaposed and reassigned to another key.